

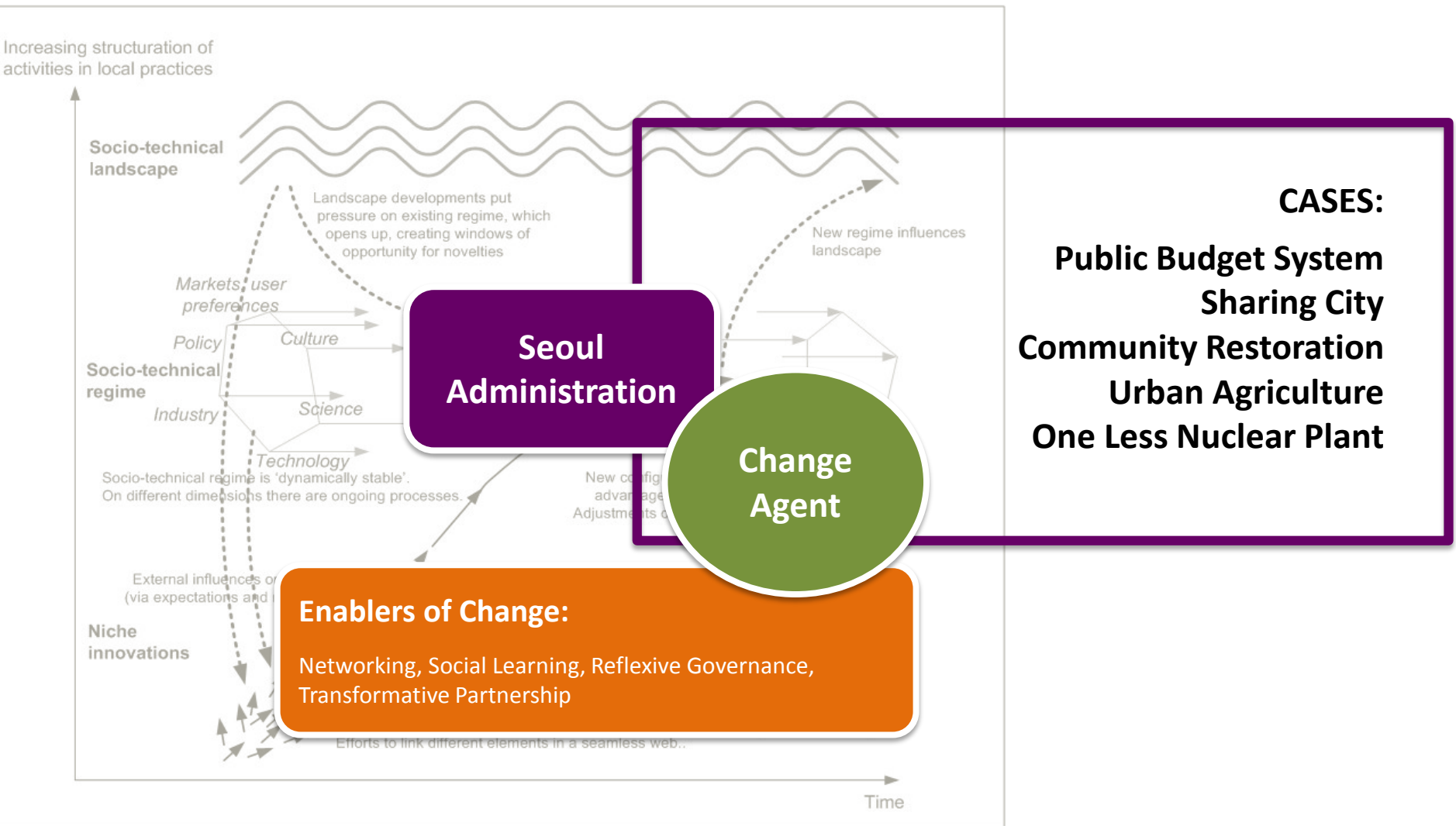
# Tracing Sustainability Transitions in Seoul Governance:

## Enabling and Scaling Grassroots Innovations

**Urban Transition Global Summit 2016, Shanghai**

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Seejae Lee (*Sungkonghoe* University)

# SUSTAINABILITY TRANSITIONS





시민의 의견을 듣고  
정책에 반영합니다.

청치벙토론회

(Listening Open Forum 聽策 )

## Seoul Mayor, Park

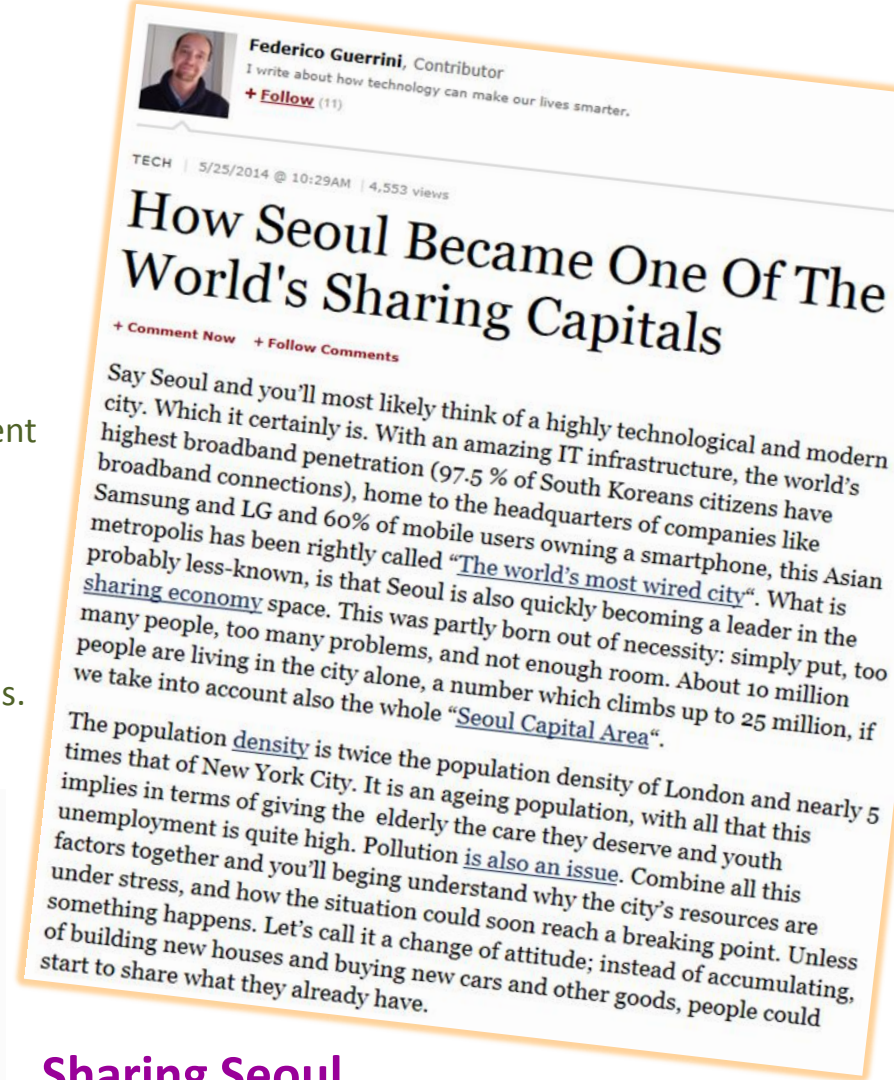
Founder of NGOs: *Hope Institute* &

*People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy*

Deliberative decision-making, public consultation and transparent information-sharing created new channels of communication

### i.e. Public Budgeting System

Budgeting Committee with citizens that review proposals to ensure financial transparency and equitable resource allocations.



## Sharing Seoul

*Sharing Ten Million Things, Ten Million Happiness*

Collective use of spaces + Exchange of experience

+ Waste reduction → Local experimental innovations



# Urban Agriculture & One Less Nuclear Power Plant

Niche

Direct trade co-ops, farmers market, civic farming community groups etc.

Innovation

Energy self-sufficient villages, solar power panel, eco-mileage membership etc.

Regime

Policies benefits of integrating nature into urban communities

Urban Agriculture Fostering and Supporting Ordinance  
One Less Nuclear Power Plant Comprehensive Plan

Lifestyle

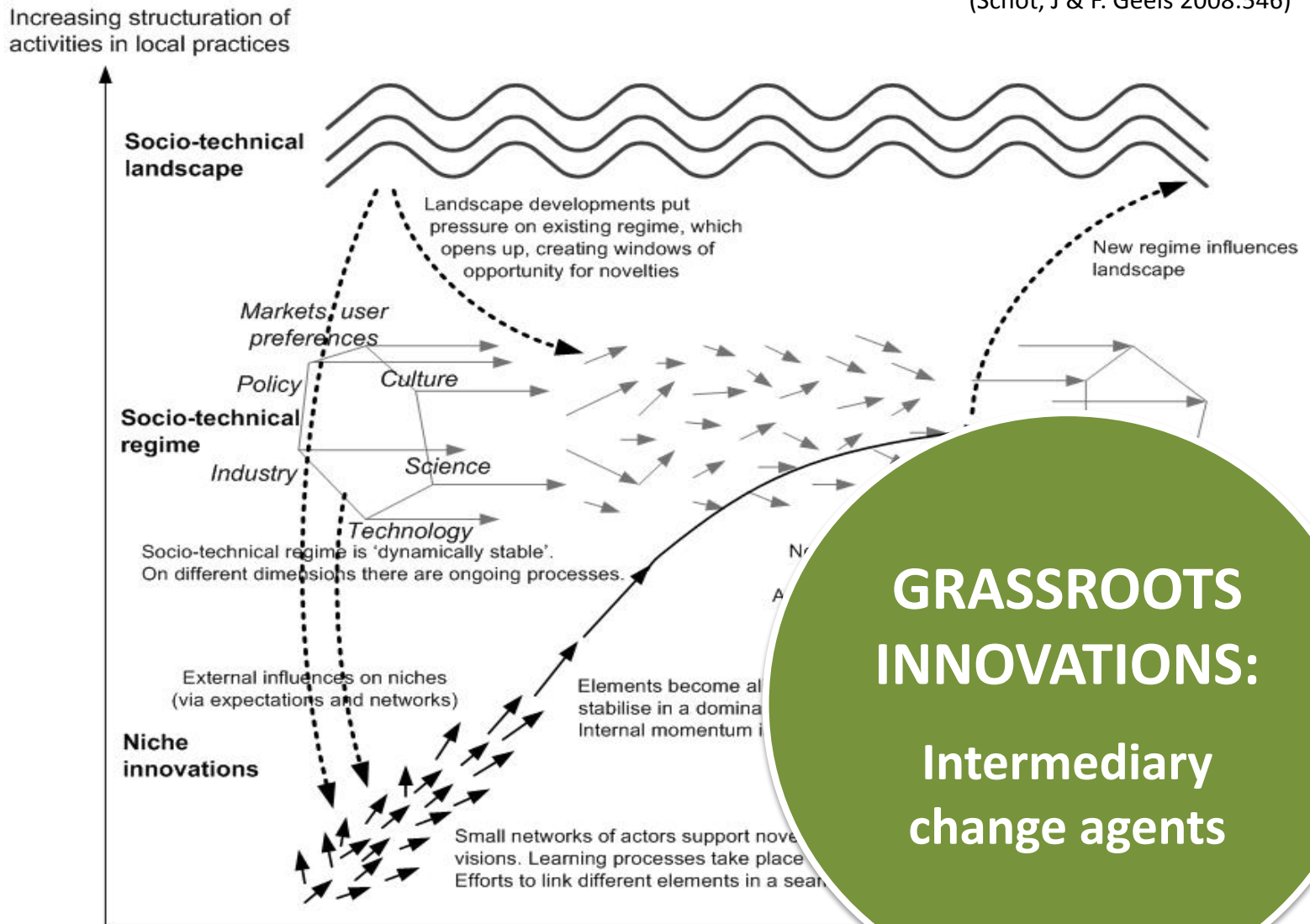
Low-impact urban lifestyles

Saved 2M TOE and plan for 4M TOE reduction



# SUSTAINABILITY TRANSITIONS: MLP

(Schot, J & F. Geels 2008:546)



# CHANGE AGENT

## Institutional Level

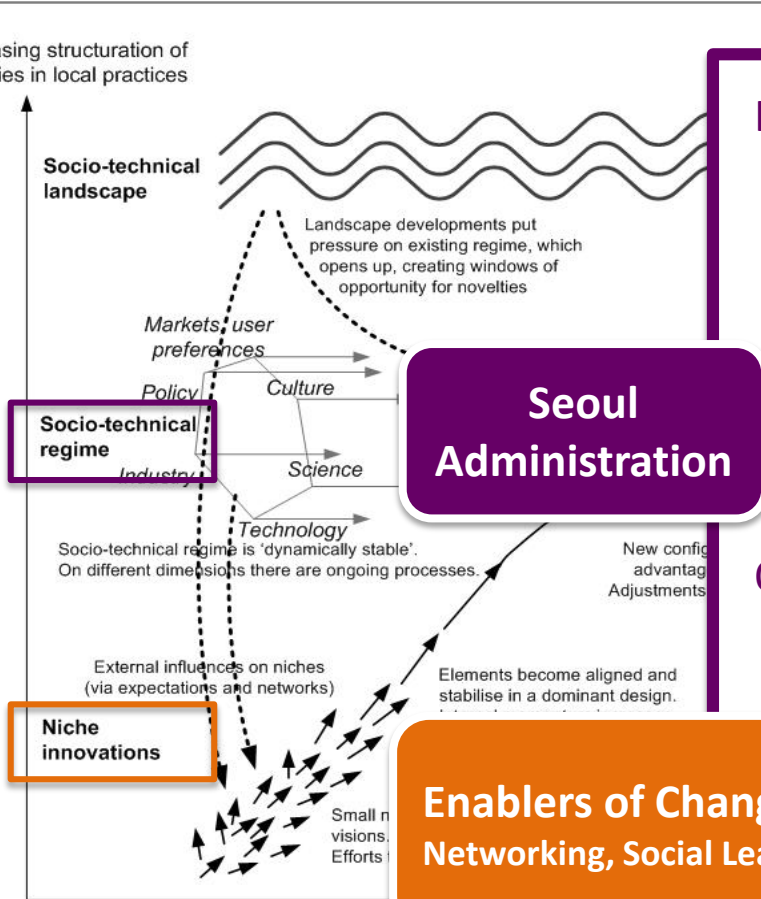
- PBS supported by Local Finance Act & Public Budgeting System Ordinance
- Comprehensive Support Plan for the Social Economy
- Community Building Division under the Seoul Innovation Ordinance for Town Community Support
- Basic Plan for Seoul's Town Community
- Proclamation of the first year of Urban Agriculture 2012
- Urban Agriculture Master Basic Plan under the Ordinance of Urban Agriculture Promotion and Support
- One Less Nuclear Power Plant Comprehensive Plan

## Organisational Level

- Seoul Sharing Promotion Committee established
- Open Administration 2.0

## Enablers of Change:

Networking, Social Learning, Reflexive Governance, Transformative Partnership



**Cases illustrated various degrees of progress within the regime level and the importance of a change agent in enabling change; crossing a threshold between organisational and institutional change help to scale innovations**

**Moving beyond the niche was possible through enablers of sustainability transitions and support from local authorities**

**More permanent change to the landscape level could occur through transformative partnerships between other cities outside Seoul or beyond Korea**